

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:
Benum et al.

Serial No: 09/659,361

Filed: 09/12/00

FOR: Surface on a Stainless Steel Matrix



Case Docket No.: NOVA 9210

Art Unit: 1775

Examiner: J. McNeil

RECEIVED

JAN 03 2004

TC 1700**RECEIVED**

JAN 05 2004

TC 1700

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a verified statement previously submitted.

A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.

Priority Document

Petition for Extension of Time (1 month) (fee enclosed).

No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below

(Col. 1)	(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)	SMALL ENTITY	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY
CLAIMS	HIGHEST NO. PRESENT		RATE ADDIT.	RATE ADDIT.
REMAINING	PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA	FEE	FEE
AFTER				
<u>AMENDMENT</u>				

TOTAL * 19 MINUS ** 32 = 0 x 9 = \$ x 18 = \$

INDEP * 1 MINUS ** 3 = 0 x43 = \$ x 86 = \$

FIRST PRESENT. OF MULT. DEP.CLAIM +145= \$ +290=\$
ADDIT. FEE TOTAL \$ _____ OR TOTAL \$ _____

* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col.3.

** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

Please charge my Deposit Account No. 10-0740 in the amount of \$ _____. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

A check in the amount of \$ _____ for the Petition for Extension of Time (1 month) is enclosed.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-0740.

Any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims.

Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth H. Johnson
Reg. No. 22,966
Attorney for Applicant
P.O. Box 630708
Houston, Texas 77263
Tel.: (713) 780-7047
Fax.: (713) 780-76712

DATE: 12/22/03

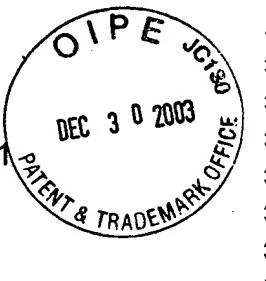
BEST AVAILABLE COPY

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:
BENUM et al.

Serial No.: 09/659,361

Filed: 09/12/2000



Attorney Docket: NOVA 9210

Group Art Unit: 1775

Examiner: McNeil, Jennifer C.

For: SURFACE ON A STAINLESS STEEL MATRIX

RECEIVED

JAN 06 2004

TC 1700

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is filed responsive to the office action mailed October 1, 2003.

Without prejudice to applicants' right to continue to prosecute subject matter in
the specification as originally filed please make the following amendments to the
specification.